

Message Text

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15

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 /048 W
----- 015507

P 170925Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 907

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

USCINCEUR

USIA WASHDC

CINCUSNAVEUR

CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN

USDOCOSOUTH

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: MILI GR

SUBJECT: NBC TELEVISION CREW FILMING FOR SPECIAL
PROGRAM ON FOREIGN POLICY

REFS: (A) ATHENS 7717 (NOTAL); (B) STATE 279739 (NOTAL);
(C) ATHENS 7889

1. NBC TV CREW HEADED BY GARRICK UTLEY FILMED IN GREECE
OCT 10-15. TO EMBASSY'S KNOWLEDGE, OTHER THAN AN
INTERVIEW WITH PANAYIOTIS LAMBRIAS, UNDERSECRETARY FOR
PRESS AND INFORMATION, NBC'S EFFORTS FOCUSED ON US
MILITARY INSTALLATIONS. THEY VISITED IRAKLION AS
OCT 10, SOUDA BAY OCT 11, ELEFSIS PIER OCT 14,
AND ATHENAI AB OCT 15. NBC CREW WILLINGLY ACCEPTED
RESTRICTIONS ON FILMING US COMMANDERS HAD TO ENFORCE,
SUCH AS NOT FILMING ANTENNA ARRAY AT IRAKLION AS OR
FLIGHT LINE AT ATHENAI AB. FILMING OF SHIPS VISITING
ELEFSIS WAS UNANTICIPATED BONUS FROM NBC POINT OF VIEW,
AND FILMS OF SHIPS AT ELEFSIS PROBABLY WILL DOMINATE
WHATEVER SURVIVES EDITING OF FILM FOOTAGE TAKEN OF US
MILITARY ACTIVITIES IN GREECE.

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2. ALTHOUGH SATISFIED WITH THE COOPERATION SHOWN BY US MILITARY AUTHORITIES, UTLEY EXPRESSED UNHAPPINESS AT UNFORTHCOMING ATTITUDE OF GREEKS, PARTICULARLY IN SOUDA BAY AREA, WHERE NBC CREW'S DESIRE TO FILM THE BAY AND HAF FLIGHT ACTIVITIES (I.E. OPERATING NEW A-7S) WAS FRUSTRATED BY NEGATIVE ATTITUDES OF GREEK MILITARY AUTHORITIES.

3. IN FIRST CONTACT WITH UTLEY, PAO EXPRESSED CHARGE'S WILLINGNESS TO MEET WITH UTLEY FOR BACKGROUND BRIEFING. UTLEY CALLED CHARGE SHORTLY BEFORE DEPARTURE TO EXPRESS REGRET THAT TIME HAD NOT PERMITTED THEM TO GET TOGETHER AND TO EXPRESS APPRECIATION FOR HELP RECEIVED FROM EMBASSY AND US MILITARY.

STEARNS

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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